

§ 1150.270

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Subpart—Procedure for Certification of Milk Producer Organizations

§ 1150.270 General.

Organizations must be certified by the Secretary that they are eligible to represent milk producers and to participate in the making of nominations of milk producers to serve as members of the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board as provided in the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983. Certifications of eligibility required of the Secretary shall be conducted in accordance with this subpart.

§ 1150.271 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) *Act* means Title I, Subtitle B, of the Dairy and Tobacco Adjustment Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-180, 97 Stat. 1128, as approved November 29, 1983, and any amendments thereto;

(b) *Department* means the United States Department of Agriculture;

(c) *Secretary* means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, or any officer or employee of the Department to whom authority has heretofore been delegated, or to whom authority may hereafter be delegated to act in the Secretary's stead;

(d) *Dairy Division* means the Dairy Division of the Department's Agricultural Marketing Service;

(e) *Producer* means any person engaged in the production of milk for commercial use;

(f) *Dairy products* means products manufactured for human consumption which are derived from the processing of milk, and includes fluid milk products; and

(g) *Fluid milk products* means those milk products normally consumed in liquid form as a beverage.

§ 1150.272 Responsibility for administration of regulations.

The Dairy Division shall have the responsibility for administering the provisions of this subpart.

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§ 1150.273 Application for certification.

Any organization whose membership consists primarily of milk producers may apply for certification. Applicant organizations should supply information for certification using as a guide "Application for Certification of Organizations," Form DA-26. Form DA-26 may be obtained from the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

§ 1150.274 Certification standards.

(a) Certification of eligible organizations shall be based, in addition to other available information, on a factual report submitted by the organization, which shall contain information deemed relevant and specified by the Secretary for the making of such determination, including the following:

(1) Geographic territory covered by the organization's active membership;

(2) Nature and size of the organization's active membership including the total number of active milk producers represented by the organization;

(3) Evidence of stability and permanency of the organization;

(4) Sources from which the organization's operating funds are derived;

(5) Functions of the organization; and

(6) The organization's ability and willingness to further the aims and objectives of the Act.

(b) The primary considerations in determining the eligibility of an organization shall be whether its membership consists primarily of milk producers who produce a substantial volume of milk, and whether the primary or overriding interest of the organization is in the production or processing of fluid milk and dairy products and promotion of the nutritional attributes of fluid milk and dairy products.

(c) The Secretary shall certify any organization which he finds meets the criteria under this section and his determination as to eligibility shall be final.

§ 1150.275 Inspection and investigation.

The Secretary shall have the right, at any time after an application is received from an organization, to examine such books, documents, papers,

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records, files, and facilities of an organization as he deems necessary to verify the information submitted and to procure such other information as may be required to determine whether the organization is eligible for certification.

§ 1150.276 Review of certification.

Certifications issued pursuant to this subpart are subject to termination or suspension if the organization does not currently meet the certification standards. A certified organization may be requested at any time to supply the Dairy Division with such information as may be required to show that the organization continues to be eligible for certification. Any information submitted to satisfy a request pursuant to this section shall be subject to inspection and investigation as provided in § 1150.275.

§ 1150.277 Listing of certified organizations.

A copy of each certification shall be furnished by the Dairy Division to the respective organization. Copies also shall be filed in the Dairy Division where they will be available for public inspection.

§ 1150.278 Confidential treatment.

All documents and other information submitted by applicant organizations and otherwise obtained by the Department by investigation or examination of books, documents, papers, records, files, or facilities shall be kept confidential by all employees of the Department. Only such information so furnished or acquired as the Secretary deems relevant shall be disclosed by them, and then only in the issuance of general statements based upon the applications of a number of persons, which do not identify the information furnished by any one person.

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Subpart—Fluid Milk Promotion Order

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